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REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED TO SELECT A LOCATION FOR A HOSPITAL FOR
THE INSANE IN EASTERN WASHINGTON,

TO THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

1887.

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To the Honorable, the Council and House of

Representatives of the Territory of Washington.

The undersigned Commissioners appointed by the Honorable Watson C Squire, Governor of Washington Territory, by authority and in pursuance of an act of the Legislature entitled an act "Providing for the appointment of Commissioners to select a location for a Hospital for the Insane in Eastern Washington," approved February 3, 1886, would most respectfully report

FIRST; that on the first Tuesday in March, 1886, all the members of the said Board of Commissioners met at Medical Lake, Washington Territory, in accordance with the provisions of the above named act, and organized by the election of the Honorable Thomas J. Smith, President, and Charles W Clarke, Secretary.

SECOND; that subsequent meetings were held thereafter by the said Board and several sites examined and propositions received in different places in the Eastern part of the Territory, for furnishing a suitable location for said Asylum, all of which were duly considered as will more fully appear from the minutes of their proceedings hereto attached and made a part of this report.

THIRD; they present herewith a proposition from the citizens of Medical Lake, Washington Territory, pledging the donation of a quarter section of land on condition that the branch Territorial Insane Asylum be erected thereon.

FOURTH; they unanimously recommended that the proposition of the citizens of Medical Lake be accepted and the Territory proceed to erect an Insane Asylum on the tract of land proposed to be donated; and for this conclusion and recommendation give the following reasons:

FIRST. The offer was much the most liberal of any made to the Board of Commissioners.

SECOND. The quarter section of land proffered by the citizens of Medical Lake, surpasses in general advantages as an Asylum site any other location submitted to the Board. It comprises about eighty acres of fertile prairie land, occupying a healthful elevation above Medical Lake and the surrounding country; and about eighty acres of timber land sloping nearly to the lake shore. The latter eighty also contains a granite ledge, available for quarrying, a permanent spring of water ample for drinking and cooking purposes, and numerous terraces suitable for building sites.

An Asylum on the lower ground could receive, into its third story, water from the spring, which overflows on the hillside at an elevation of fifty-five (55) feet above; while water from the lake for lavatory and medical uses is available on any portion of the tract at comparatively slight expense. The region moreover is quiet and salubrious. Building materials of all kinds can be had in abundance at low cost. Every requirement of the act is fully met, save perhaps that of accessibility; but as Medical Lake is only eight (8) miles from Cheney, its nearest station on the main line of the Northern Pacific Railway, and is on three (3) stage routes, and in the direct path of probable railroad extension any objection on this account was held insufficient to offset the numerous benefits possessed by the location chosen.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

T. J. SMITH,

G. J. HILL, M. D.,

CHARLES W. CLAKE,

Commissioners.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ASYLUM COMMISSIONERS.

FIRST MEETING of the Board at Medical Lake, Washington Territory
March 2, 1886.

All members present. Organization effected. Hon. Thos. J. Smith elected President, Charles W. Clarke, Secretary.

Deputation of citizens accompanied the members of the Board through various parts of the town and surrounding country, and suggested three different sites. A proposal of donation of site made. Meeting adjourned to Spokane Falls.

SECOND MEETING of the Board at Spokane Falls, W. T., March 3, 1886.

All members present. Deputation of citizens accompanied the Board through the town and suburbs, and discussed the requirements of the site but made no definite proposal. Price of lands quoted one hundred dollars (\$100) per acre and none shown that answered the demands of the act as to arable quality. Meeting adjourned March 5th subject to the call of the Secretary.

THIRD MEETING of the Board at North Yakima, W. T., May 23, 1887, pursuant to call of the Secretary. All members present. Minutes of the last meetings read and approved.

The Secretary reported that as the result of letters of inquiry addressed to the officials of Cheney, Sprague, Colfax, Yakima, Ellensburg, Dayton, Golden-dale and Rockford under date of May 22, 1886, reply had been received only from Dayton.

Deputation of citizens accompanied the members through the town of North Yakima and suburbs. Sites discussed, but no proposals made, beyond statement that lands at this point can be had at fifty dollars (\$50) per acre, and none shown exceptionally suitable for a site.

At this meeting it was decided that Messrs. Smith and Clarke should visit Walla Walla, Waitsburg, Dayton, Pomeroy, Colfax and intermediate places and investigate the advantages possessed by these points.

Accordingly the two members set forth on the 25th of May over the route above indicated, and spent until June 1st in examinations. Were shown available land at Waitsburg, Dayton, Pomeroy and Colfax, but none equal in general fitness to that of Medical Lake, and all held at from ten (\$10) to twenty-five (\$25) per acre.

Supplemental trips were agreed on, suiting the personal convenience of Messrs. Smith and Clarke, to revisit Medical Lake, re-examine the proposed sites, inspect the volume of water supply at close of the summer term, and secure an agreement of donation in binding form. Supplemental trip was made by Mr. Clarke in August and by Mr. Smith in October, and bond obtained signed by Messrs Wm. H. Spence, Henry Hashagen, Charles McDowell, Thomas Campbell, Archie Spence and Wm. Morter, citizens of Medical Lake well known and responsible, for the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13, Township 24 N R. 40 E. W. M., for the purpose of a free site.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. CLARKE,

Secretary

BOND

TO SECURE FREE SITE AT MEDICAL LAKE FOR WASHINGTON
TERRITORY BRANCH INSANE ASYLUM.

DATED MEDICAL LAKE, W. T.

November 10, 1887,

KNOW ALL MEN, by these presents that we William H. Spence, Henry Hashagen, Chas. McDonall, Thomas Campbell, Archie Spence and William Morter, citizens of Medical Lake, Spokane county, Washington Territory, do jointly bind ourselves, our heirs and assigns to donate free of charge to the Territory of Washington the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13 Township 24 N. R. 40 E. W. M. The conditions of this gift being that the Territory of Washington *do* at the next meeting of the Legislature thereof pass and approve an act locating a Territorial Insane Asylum or Branch Asylum on said land, *otherwise* this bond to be void and of no effect.

Witness.

FRANK RING.
JOHN CHEETHAM.
THOS. CAMPBELL.
MARY LUCAS.
T. M. HARWOOD.
H. L. TATOM.

Signed.

WILLIAM MORTER.
CHARLES McDONALL.
ARCHIE SPENCE.
HENRY HASHAGEN.
W. H. SPENCE.
THOMAS CAMBELL.